

3-14-2006

## The BG News March 14, 2006

Bowling Green State University

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### Recommended Citation

Bowling Green State University, "The BG News March 14, 2006" (2006). *BG News (Student Newspaper)*. 7572.

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**BRING ON THE BRUINS:** Women's hoops learn they'll face UCLA as a #12 seed in the NCAA tourney; **PAGE 9**

# BG NEWS

Bowling Green State University

A daily independent student press

**TUESDAY**  
March 14,  
2006

**SNOW SHOWERS**  
HIGH: 38 LOW: 26

www.bgnews.com  
VOLUME 100 ISSUE 114

## Optional abortion surprises students

**Anti-abortion rally turns to celebration for new health plan**

By Dave Herrera  
REPORTER

The announcement that abortion coverage would not be mandatory in the University's insurance plan came as a surprise to members of student groups that were preparing to rally yesterday against the former proposal. The original plan would have automatically included abortion coverage.

The demonstration, with at

least 50 people expected to join, quickly turned into a celebration of around 15 students as the news spread, while construction paper and supplies for making signs sat unused.

The news was "absolutely" unexpected, said Mike Woodall, the coordinator of the loose coalition of groups, which included Falcons for Life, Creed on Campus, College Republicans and Students for Academic Freedom.

Edward Whipple, the vice president for academic affairs, sent an e-mail to all students yesterday that said "optional insurance

coverage for elective abortion will be available for an additional \$60 per year," which would be added to the standard cost of \$1,234.

Students who chose not to opt-in to the program would not be covered for an abortion under any circumstance, said Teri Sharp, the University's director of media relations.

"This was one of the things we wanted, and they told us it was impossible," Woodall said. "We had no idea."

The group had collected over 300 signatures in support, which

**RALLY, PAGE 2**

## Abortion axed from plan

**Committee upset after last minute insurance changes for students**

By Bridget Sharp  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

After many student activists raised their voices against abortion coverage in next year's proposed health insurance plan, abortion won't be included in the standard student health plan. The finalized insurance plan goes against the recommendation from the Health Services Advisory Committee, which included abortion coverage at a cost of \$1 per student per year.

The announcement came yesterday in an e-mail to the entire student body from Ed Whipple, vice president of student affairs.

The e-mail said that optional abortion coverage will be available at an additional cost of \$60 per year.

"We believe the University's student health insurance program will give individuals the ability to make health choices based on their personal needs," Whipple wrote in the e-mail.

Whipple also reminded students via e-mail that they will be required to buy insurance through the University next year, unless they can prove they already have comparable insurance or purchase similar coverage.

Whipple was not available for interview because he is out of town for a conference.

The announcement came as a surprise and disappointment to Robin Sinn, head of the Health

Services Advisory Committee, which recommended the insurance provider Chickering and original health plan that included abortion.

When the committee recommended the plan, they had already spent months in negotiations with provider Chickering to nail down what services would be included and how much it would cost.

Sinn learned yesterday that the Board of Trustees renegotiated with Chickering to change the plan to exclude abortion and offer more expensive optional abortion coverage.

"It was done without our knowledge," she said. "And its unfortunate that the Board apparently felt pressured enough that they

**TRUSTEES, PAGE 6**



**GOOD MORNING, APPALACHIAN TRAIL:** Sunrise at Fontana Dam Shelter, where we camped our last night on the trail. Students spent most of their spring break hiking the trails of the Appalachian mountains, fighting rain and steep inclines.

## Week-long hike combines pleasure, pain for editor

By Julie DiFranco  
PHOTO EDITOR

I decided to spend Spring Break of my final year of college backpacking across part of the Appalachian Trail, and was pretty excited about it during the weeks leading up to the trip. While I've spent a good amount of time growing up doing outdoor activities, this was going to be a new experience for me.

I spent the weeks before leaving for the trip going to pre-trip meetings and gathering equipment I would need for this.

"The hardest part of the trip is making sure that everyone has the right gear to accommodate any type of weather situation we might come across," said Bryan Cavins, director of the Outdoor Program.

Myself and the other students

going were split up into three groups; two groups of 10 and one of eight. Each group was going to be lead by two members of the Outdoor Program.

We left at 3 a.m. on March 4. After the 12-hour drive, we reached our destination in North Carolina. Each of the three groups would be hiking a different part

**APPALACHIAN, PAGE 12**



**FIRE SKILLS:** Zach Mueller, a grad student, attempts to start a fire. The group stopped at the top of Cheoah Bald.

## Instructors open ears to undergrad concerns

**Open forum held for students, faculty about academics**

By Candice Jones  
REPORTER

Last night the weekly meeting for Undergraduate Student Government was transformed into an informal, open discussion between students and faculty. They talked about academic honesty, student effort in classes, teaching strategies, and more topics of University academics.

Representatives from Faculty Senate and other faculty members visited the meeting to ask students questions and get feedback on issues like what students expect from their faculty and what the faculty should be expecting from University students. USG President Aaron Shumaker said this type of meeting would be the first of many between students and faculty in the future.

"Dialogue like this could lay the ground work for where the University is going," he said.

The idea to have students and faculty engage in this type of dialogue was brought up by the Chair of Faculty Senate, Robert Boughton. At last night's meeting by encouraging the members of USG to think about academic freedom — in other words, what students can and cannot say in the classroom.

*"Dialogue like this could lay the ground work for where the Univ. is going."*

AARON SHUMAKER,  
USG PRESIDENT

There is a bill in Congress, Bill 24, which addresses just that issue. Boughton said Faculty Senate is also trying to work on the issue.

"We at Faculty Senate are trying to improve communication between students and faculty," he said.

The discussion went far beyond Senate Bill 24 — legislation that some educators worried could limit free academic conversation in classrooms — and led to over an hour and a half of discussion back and forth between students and

faculty. Vice Chair of Faculty Senate, Rich Hebein brought up academic honesty. He said it is frustrating for the faculty when students are dishonest.

"What we do at a university is based on trust," Hebein said.

USG senators gave suggestions on making the Academic Honesty Policy more uniform among different classes and brought up concerns that the process for prosecuting academic dishonesty was unfair to students.

Some other professors were also there to absorb student comments. Professor, Molly Laflin asked students if academic standards are going down. She brought up the University's guideline for studying which is two hours of studying per each hour spent in class. Laflin

**USG, PAGE 6**

**SUNSHINE WEEK BRINGING AWARENESS TO OPEN GOVERNMENT ISSUES**

## State government records restricted for public safety

By Robert Tanner  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Some things your government doesn't have to tell you about:

- The safety plan at your child's school, if you live in Iowa.
- Medication errors at your grandparent's nursing home in North Carolina.
- Disciplinary actions against Indiana state employees.

States have steadily limited the public's access to government information since the

Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, a new Associated Press analysis of laws in all 50 states has found. Legislatures have passed more than 1,000 laws changing access to information, approving more than twice as many measures that restrict information as laws that open government books.

The horror of the attacks spurred a wholesale re-examination of information that could put the country in danger, and state actions roughly mir-

ror those on the federal level. Federal agencies responded by shutting down Web sites, pulling telephone directories and rethinking everything from dam blueprints to historical records.

In statehouse battles, the issue has pitted advocates of government openness — including journalists and civil liberties groups — against lawmakers and others who worry that public information could

be misused, whether it's by terrorists or by computer hackers hoping to use your credit cards. Security concerns typically won out.

The AP discovered a clear trend from the Sept. 11 attacks through legislative work that ended last year: States passed 616 laws that restricted access — to government records, databases, meetings and more — and 284 laws that loosened access. Another 123 laws had

either a neutral or mixed effect, the AP found.

"What these open government laws do is break down that wall of government secrecy so that everybody knows what's going on," said Lucy Dalglish, executive director of the Reporter Committee for Freedom of the Press. "A democracy can only function if we have information. You can only have oversight of

**SUNSHINE, PAGE 2**



**'CHEF' QUILTS**

**SOUTH PARK:** Isaac Hayes is done working on the show after saying writers crossed the line in poking fun at all religions; **PAGE 7**

### FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

#### WEDNESDAY



Mostly Sunny  
High: 43°  
Low: 27°

#### THURSDAY



Rain  
High: 39°  
Low: 25°

#### FRIDAY



Snow Showers  
High: 34°  
Low: 17°

#### SATURDAY



Snow Showers  
High: 36°  
Low: 21°

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# Treatment of Shiites questioned at trial

Saddam sentenced 148 Shiites to death after assassination attempt

By Bassem Mroue  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — A former judge from Saddam Hussein's regime admitted yesterday to sentencing 148 Shiites to death in the 1980s, but maintained they received a fair trial and had confessed to trying to assassinate the former Iraqi leader.

Another co-defendant also defended the crackdown against Shiites, saying it was a legal response to the assassination attempt.

Saddam and his half brother, former intelligence chief Barzan Ibrahim — who did not appear yesterday — are expected to testify in the next session Wednesday.

The former Iraqi leader and seven regime officials are charged with killing the 148 Shiites, as well as illegal imprisonment and torture of hundreds of others in the crackdown launched after Saddam's motorcade was fired on as it passed through the Shiite town of Dujail in 1982. They face possible execution by hanging if convicted.

Taha Yassin Ramadan — once a member of Saddam's inner ruling circle, who is accused of helping direct the crackdown and organizing the razing of Dujail farmlands in retaliation — denied any role but challenged the court, calling it an illegitimate creation of the United States.

"This trial is the oddity of our era ... A legitimate president is being tried because his motorcade came under fire," he said, referring to Saddam.

He said members of the Iranian-backed Shiite opposition Dawa Party tried to kill Saddam and the 148 Shiites tried and sentenced to death in the crackdown "spoke frankly about what they did."

His comments echoed those of Saddam in an earlier session. Last month, Saddam admitted in court that he ordered the 148 Shiites put on trial before his Revolutionary Court, but said it was his right to do so because they were suspected of trying to kill him.

Prosecutors are trying to show Saddam's regime sought to punish the town's civilian population. Hundreds of people were arrested — including entire families, with women and young children — and detained for years.

They argue the Revolutionary

SADDAM, PAGE 6

## Access to state records restricted

SUNSHINE, FROM PAGE 1

government if you have information."

Associated Press reporters in every state, often with help from their local press associations, tracked the government access bills introduced since the World Trade Center towers and Pentagon were hit by hijacked planes.

In every state, reporters tallied bills that were proposed each year, and then examined the laws that passed. They assessed the impact of each new measure and rated it as loosening existing limits on public access to government information, restricting the limits, or neutral.

While fear of another terrorist attack drove many new proposals, it wasn't the only motivator. Concerns about identity theft, medical privacy and the vulnerability of computerized records have sparked many pieces of legislation, too.

Lawmakers say they are reca-

librating the balance between information that could be used against society and what society at large needs to know.

"Since Sept. 11, we're looking at information like plans for our nuclear plants, the records of our bridges and transportation systems. All of the critical information that is out there that we don't necessarily want to put in the hands of a terrorist," said New York state Sen. Nick Spano, a Republican who had proposed tightening legislation soon after the attacks.

"It's a very difficult balance between the public's right to know and the public's right to security," Spano said. A different security measure ultimately became law, limiting access to information about infrastructure from airports to cellular phone systems. Last year, Spano authored a law that strengthened public access by setting a strict deadline for state agencies to respond to requests for information.

## BG NEWS BRIEFING

THE BG NEWS

Former Toledo mayor joins faculty

The University has appointed Jack Ford as practitioner-in-residence in the College of Arts & Sciences.

The former mayor of Toledo, Ford has taught at the collegiate level for 25 years and has 18 years of experience in public service.

Ford's political career began on Toledo City Council, where he served seven years — the last year as council president. From there he moved to the Ohio House of Representatives, and then on to mayor of Toledo.

Ford joined the faculty yesterday, will contribute to BG Experience, the President's Leadership Academy, and will be a guest lecturer.



JACK FORD  
EX-MAYOR

## Mixed feelings about final health plan

RALLY, FROM PAGE 1

they had planned to present at last night's Undergraduate Student Government meeting, he said.

Kelly Schulz, a member of both Creed and the graduate student senate, said the move was "a good step in the right direction."

"The less people that support abortion, the better," she said.

Earlier this year, the Health Services Advisory Committee, which includes undergraduates, graduate students and faculty,

had recommended the insurance package which made abortion coverage mandatory.

But some group members and leaders present at the rally thought it was influence from the student body, as well as an information packet handed out at a Board of Trustees meeting on March 3, which led to the change [see story, this page].

"Apparently [the trustees] put pressure on Dr. Whipple," said Gina Tortorella, president of Falcons for Life. "We just found

out that it worked."

Whipple is responsible for ultimately approving the plan. He, as well as Glenn Egelman, director of student health services, were unavailable for comment, their offices said.

Kim McBroom, the assistant vice president for marketing and communication, said members of the Board of Trustees "informally" discussed the abortion insurance question among one another during spring break.

Members then eventually told

the University's general counsel, who has been negotiating the plan, that they thought the compromise opt-in plan was best, McBroom said.

But two members of the advisory committee, Maria Khoury and Tony Wagener, were angry their recommendation was rejected by Whipple and the trustees.

"These people are sitting around, making decisions for the students, yet the students aren't there and involved in that process," Khoury said.



Jordan Flower BG News

DISCUSSION: USG President Aaron Shumaker discusses the health plan with Mike Woodall, organizer of the rally, yesterday near the Union.

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# Republicans speak at banquet in BG

Presidential Adviser thanks Ohio, defends decisions of party

By Bridget Tharp  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR  
and Sean Corp  
REPORTER

Karl Rove wanted to express his gratitude to Ohio Republicans during his speech on campus Saturday.

"I am here to say thank you," he told a crowd of nearly 700 Republicans, citing the pivotal role Ohio played in the presidential election of 2004. "You all had something to do with keeping me employed for the next four years."

Rove, chief political adviser to the president and one of the architects of the modern Republican Party, spoke in the Union Ballroom on Saturday as the keynote speaker of an annual banquet held by local U.S. Congressman Paul Gillmor, Bowling Green's representative.

Along with thanking those involved in the re-election effort, Rove also highlighted many key components of Bush's agenda including the war in Iraq, the Patriot Act, warrantless wiretapping and tax cuts.

While Rove touched on many national issues he did not mention political crises that Ohio Republicans face. The crises came after Gov. Bob Taft, Attorney General Jim Petro and State Auditor Betty Montgomery were implicated in the Cointage scandal involving one-time BGSU trustee Tom Noe.

Rove also did not mention the now abandoned Dubai port deal, an issue that is causing a divide within Republican ranks.

Rove championed Republicans' values and principles, while claiming that Democrats were too soft to fight terrorism and wanted to raise taxes in good times and bad.

Rove accused Democrats of wanting to "cut and run" out of Iraq. Calling troops back from Iraq would make the conflict worse, and "would undermine the morale of our military," Rove said.

"As long as America stands with them, the Iraqi people will reject al-Qaeda's attempt to provoke a civil war, choosing instead to move further along the path of democracy," Rove said.



Brandon Heiss BG News

**GRATEFUL TO OHIO:** Presidential Adviser Karl Rove and Ohio Senator Mike DeWine attend a Republican Party banquet in the Union Ballroom during the annual Lincoln-Hayes Dinner held in Bowling Green on Saturday. Both men addressed the crowd of almost 700 Republicans.

And that's why the administration will not remove troops from Iraq, he said.

In a slight shift of message, Rove did not once refer to the "war on terror" or "war against terrorism." Instead, he used the phrase "war against Islamic fascism." Rove has used the phrase a number of times since late January in various speeches around the country.

He also criticized Democrats for opposing other Republican initiatives, including the renewal of the Patriot Act, which became official last week.

"America is safer," he said, noting that, "Republican support and Democrat opposition of the Patriot Act will be a big issue in this November election."

He defended the Patriot Act and controversial surveillance methods, including using roving wiretaps without a warrant on suspected terrorists. He said it was easier to keep tabs on criminals and mobsters than it was to keep track of possible al-Qaeda members.

"[President Bush] was determined to put an end to it. He said as long as we're being tough on criminals let's be tough on terrorists too."

He also expressed the importance in making President Bush's 2003 tax cuts permanent. Rove said the nation's leading econo-

mists agree that these cuts helped spur the economy. He warned that ending them would be equivalent to giving the majority of Americans an unneeded tax hike.

"We cut taxes at just the right time," Rove said.

Rove celebrated less government spending, which he credited to Republicans for reducing or cutting 141 government programs. Rove also thanked the crowd for supporting both new conservative Supreme Court judges, Samuel Alito and John Roberts.

Rove noted that Republicans have a stronghold in Congress, and 28 gubernatorial seats. That's a majority Rove said he wants maintain in the upcoming election. He stressed the importance of not falling into the same malaise the Democrats found themselves in once they were accustomed to being in power.

"We have gone from a minority party with little influence to one that is broad and inclusive, self-assured and optimistic, forward thinking and dominant," he said.

And with more hard work, Rove said he is confident that Republicans could make even more strides.

"What November will bring is victory for our party and our ideas."

## Ohio Congressman tells of state's vital role in 2006 elections

By Sean Corp  
REPORTER

As the host of the annual Lincoln-Hayes banquet, Rep. Paul Gillmor declared that as important as Ohio was in the 2004 presidential election, it will be even more important in the 2006 elections.

"Ohio is once again going to be a battleground state," he said, "this time not for the president, but for control of the United

States Senate" as well as control of the House.

Ohio was a pivotal swing state in the 2004 presidential campaign and the Republican Party wants it to stay that way.

"When you win an election you cannot rest on your laurels," Gillmor warned to a crowd that included key representatives from every district in the state as well as key political figures like Attorney General Jim Petro, Chairman of the Ohio Republican Party Bob Bennett and Sen. Mike DeWine.

Gillmor, who serves on the House Committee on Energy

and Commerce, seemed proud of the fact that Congress passed a national energy policy, and explained the importance of alternative energy resources such as ethanol and clean coal.

"Long term, the only solution is to move away from our increasing dependence on petroleum and foreign sources for our energy," he said.

One of the biggest steps in doing so is to develop clean coal technology. He also highlighted the issue as one of great importance to Ohioans.

"We are the Saudi Arabia of coal," he said.

Sen. DeWine spoke after Gillmor and applauded Gillmor's efforts in the House.

"You see what he does at home. I see what he does in Washington," he said.

DeWine received a warm reception from the crowd, which he said he was relieved to get after he lost favor from some in his party for compromising during the fight over judicial nominees.

"I know some of you ... were a little upset with me when we put this compromise together in regards to judges."

DeWine was involved in an agreement where Republicans would not invoke the so-called "nuclear option" which would eliminate the ability to filibuster if the group of Democrats would agree to filibuster in only the most extreme circumstances.

To read the full version of this story, go to [www.bgnews.com](http://www.bgnews.com)



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Sophomores/Cont. Freshmen (1 - 59 hours) <b>WOMEN</b>	March 16	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	
Sophomores/Cont. Freshmen (1 - 59 hours) <b>MEN</b>	March 17	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	
<b>Online Housing Sign-up for Residential Learning/Theme Communities</b>			
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Aviation Community			
Batchelder Music Community			
Chapman Learning Community in Kohl			
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Open housing selection and room change period	March 29 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.	
<b>Online Housing Sign-up by Class Rank</b>			
Same room request			
Seniors (90 hours and above)	March 27 at 8 a.m.	March 29 at 11:59 p.m.	
Juniors (60 - 89 hours)	March 29 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.	
Sophomores/Cont. Freshmen (1 - 59 hours) <b>MEN</b>	April 3 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.	
Sophomores/Cont. Freshmen (1 - 59 hours) <b>WOMEN</b>	April 7 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.	
Open housing selection and room change period	April 12 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.	
	April 17 at 8 a.m.	May 7 at 11:59 p.m.	



## QUOTE/UNQUOTE

*"What the president did by consciously and intentionally violating the Constitution and laws of this country with this illegal wiretapping has to be answered."*

Sen. Russ Feingold about his proposed censure of President Bush  
(cnn.com)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

## OPINION

## STAFF EDITORIAL

## 'Closed doors' nothing but trouble

It's a unique coincidence that the same day The BG News begins celebrating Sunshine Week, a controversial decision is announced about next year's student health care plan — and it's a decision that wasn't made in the public eye.

This week all across the nation, media outlets are celebrating Sunshine Week — a week dedicated to bringing attention to the state of open government and public records access.

At the board of trustees' meeting on Friday, March 3,

## YOU DECIDE

Do you think the board of trustees should have kept health plan talks in the open? Send an e-mail to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com) and tell us what you think, or post feedback on our Web site.

at BGSU's Firelands branch, the board went into "executive session" for more than an hour to discuss, with the University's attorney, the possibilities of abortion being

made an optional addition to the student health plan.

This "closed door" portion of the meeting is allowed under Ohio's Sunshine Laws when the board is discussing "personnel matters, the purchase of property, pending or imminent court action, and collective bargaining," according to an open meeting exception in Ohio's laws.

The board's secretary, Linda Dobb, said conferring with the BGSU lawyer falls into these

exceptions.

But according to Dobb, the board came out of "executive session" without having made a final decision. The BG News was also told that members of the board later talked about the issue with one another "informally" during spring break, according to Kim McBroom, assistant vice president of Marketing and Communications.

None of this was done in the public's eye — and The BG News thinks that makes the board look like they have something to hide.

What came from holding these discussions with the BGSU legal council in secret from those in attendance and the press, rather than out in the open with the public?

Nothing but trouble, that's what. As you read Sunshine Law-related stories in The BG News throughout this week, you'll see that more and more public officials and governing bodies are opting for secrecy over openness, citing reasons that range from national security to wanting to

avoid criticism over how they arrive at their conclusions.

Maybe it is for the best that abortion was made optional for students who use the plan next year, despite the fact that the \$60 additional charge for abortion can't be covered by students' financial aid monies from Ohio taxpayers.

We want clarity for our fellow students at BGSU when it comes to knowing how this decision was made by the board, and complete openness by the board is the quickest route to these answers.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Trustees hide behind closed door session

The needs of the student body have been placed behind the business of members of the University's board of trustees.

The University has adopted a health insurance policy with a hard waiver, and it was left to the Health Services Advisory Committee to debate and decide on an insurance provider and plan. Being student members of this committee, we have worked tirelessly to ensure that the needs of the students were heard.

We published letters, spoke with the BG News and discussed issues with USG. Our efforts led us to a plan submitted to the board at its March meeting: a plan which included as much

influence from students as possible. Leaders of both the USG and the Graduate Student Senate returned from the meeting confident that the recommendation would be accepted.

Much to their dismay, the board, who disagreed with one portion of the plan, chose to ignore the opinions of students and have a closed door meeting to axe part of the plan. This meeting occurred without the input of the student leaders or of the two student members of the board. In essence, this group of people who are appointed to serve on the board of chose to hide from the students and act on their private wishes.

This group, who undoubtedly will vote to raise your tuition in the coming months, has taken out a legal medical procedure, which would have only cost one additional dollar, and replaced it with an option for a student to spend \$60.

This board, all political appointees by the governor, not elected to serve based on their credentials in higher education bypassed the recommendations of the HSAC, students, and President Ribeau.

President Ribeau fought valiantly for the students, but he too was ignored. It is heartbreaking to think that the officials of a public university could ignore the views of the majority of students, but even more so that they make decisions behind closed doors without the input of the students.

We, the students of BGSU, deserve and demand better, and we clearly are not going to get that with the current members of the board.

MARIA KHOURY AND TONY WAGENER  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS  
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## PEOPLE ON THE STREET

*Is optional abortion coverage in the student health plan a fair compromise?*



KATIE VORWALD  
SOPHOMORE, MUSIC EDUCATION

*"It's a step in the right direction, but we're not done with the whole issue."*



SHIZUKA MATSUNAGA  
SENIOR, INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

*"It's good to have options, even if it isn't in the original plan."*



GIOVANNI FILLARI  
FRESHMAN, TELECOMMUNICATIONS

*"Sounds fair, \$60 isn't all that bad for people who want to make that decision."*



AMANDA STOMBAUGH  
SOPHOMORE, ART HISTORY

*"It's better than not having it at all."*

## McDonald delays unfair to students



ANDREW FLAVANHAN  
Opinion Columnist

The McDonald Dining Center needs a complete overhaul. I know it, you know it, and apparently University Dining Services agrees with us. It's a shame we'll likely be eating in the current "poultry-crazed" version until most of us graduate, though.

It seems UDS feels the renovations are a logistical nightmare, saying that problems with alternative places for students to eat and student feedback are causing "major headaches."

The Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo missions were logistical nightmares, this shouldn't be. I doubt I'm the only one who thinks UDS should take some Tylenol and give students what they're paying for.

Considering I can't possibly be the only person tired of eating in a sub-par dining facility and being forced to pay the same amount of money in meal plans as other students with better facilities.

As far as the alternative cafeteria dilemma, they should either remove meal plan requirements for Offenbauer and McDonald residents or relax their Flexfunds for the duration of the renovations.

All residence halls require residents to have a set meal plan, and unclear meal plan compatibilities and long walks leave students with little alternative to their closest cafeteria. This is stupid. Offenbauer residents especially should be disgruntled, paying more than many students living in other halls (up to \$500 more a semester) for the spiffy rooms and facilities, but forced to eat in a cafeteria worse than those feeding students living in cheaper halls. That just plain sucks.

Let us decide ourselves what to do with our \$1,500 per semester instead of guaranteeing UDS they'll eventually get all of it even if they give us Grade Z meat and the same things everyday. What I wouldn't give to have a debit card with my food money on it, that I could spend anywhere I liked, would be a very short list.

To be honest, they owe a lot to the students forced to eat at the Macateria, and letting them eat where they want with their own money would be a good start. A semester of Steak Escape every-

day would make up for nearly three of endless chicken.

Or, relax Flexfunds. Let affected students eat where they want while UDS finally takes a pro-active stand on the renovations. They established Flexfunds because everyone ate at the Union and overwhelmed it — while every other cafeteria struggled to stay open. So, they're obviously not going to like the idea of two halls allowing students to eat wherever they please. But, I don't think Offenbauer and McDonald residents enjoy eating at the worst dining hall on campus and paying the same meal plan rates as students with better facilities, and without the students this place wouldn't have a point. Any money lost would only encourage UDS to take the renovations seriously instead of complaining about how difficult they'll be.

The idea of putting up sandwich stands doesn't make sense, if people don't like eating chicken everyday — why would they like eating sandwiches every day? At least the Macateria has that dinner/lunch line, even if it does have awful hours and food.

Their idea of ferrying us across campus to the Sundial is also a bad idea. You'd have students from four halls eating in one dining center. The lines would be longer than the DMV. The only way to fairly treat the affected students is to spread them out around campus, so the displacement won't overly affect a single dining center and other students.

Before the renovations even begin there are many things that could be done to improve the Macateria. Like realize that having the same lunch hours as the Sundial is unfair and intolerable. The Sundial has two lines, and both of them have different foods everyday — if one closes, you'll find something else worth eating at the other line. It doesn't work like that at the Macateria. If someone has a rough schedule and can't make it there in time, they're forced to eat at the chicken line or deli. Neither changes their selection. That's not worth \$1,500 a semester. Increasing the hours on the "traditions" line at the Macateria would mean less chicken and happier students.

The renovations will undoubtedly be difficult, but the hassle should fall on the University — not the students, who have been unfairly suffering in one of the worst cafeterias ever built.

Send comments to Andrew at [fandrew@bgsu.edu](mailto:fandrew@bgsu.edu).

## Coulter not worth the money



AMANDA BELCHER  
Opinion Columnist

Your taxes and tuition dollars may go to a lunatic. Ann Coulter, famed lawyer and political pundit, is known for her insatiable outbursts and insults. Ann Coulter would probably go so far as to call her mother a coward.

Recently I have gotten word that the College Republicans want bring Coulter to this University. If they do, they will pay her a whopping \$20,000 of your tuition and tax money.

According to Julie Mack of the Kalamazoo Gazette, the Western Michigan University College Republicans shelled out \$20,000 to have Ann Coulter appear a few weeks ago, Wednesday February 22, at WMU.

Have a seat kids. Bring your blankets; I'm going to tell you a little story now.

A graduate of Cornell and the University of Michigan, Coulter's most notable crack at the courtroom was a seat on Paula Jones' advisory council in the case against Bill Clinton. Coulter publicly referred to Paula as "the good Christian girl" only to later refer to her as "trailer park trash."

Now children, don't get too excited, it only gets better.

After having authored the book, "High Crimes and Misdemeanors: The Case Against Bill Clinton," Coulter was accused of plagiarizing a work by Michael Chapman, a co-worker whom she claims she never met.

In 2004, Coulter spoke about former Senator Max Cleland's service in Vietnam. He received a Purple Heart, having lost an arm and both legs from a grenade explosion. Coulter stated that because this incident was an accident, Cleland "didn't give his limbs for his country."

She even hates Republicans. At the Conservative Political Action Conference, Coulter is a regular every year. According to CampusProgress.org, during one of the conferences a student from Muslims for America stood up and pleaded with Coulter to stop using ethnic slurs such as "ragheads." "...I mean it kind of turns Muslims off and it's hard to recruit them to support your cause ... please, please, please, please don't say raghead." Coulter stated, "You know, OK. I make a few jokes at Muslims and they killed 3000 Americans — I think we're even."

During her speech at WMU she treated conservatives and liberals with extreme disrespect. According to Julie Mack, "[Coulter] pronounced one question to be so silly that she

hooted the questioner must be majoring in engineering rather than history — and the question was from a fellow Republican."

I will share my personal favorite quote from Ann Coulter:

From The Guardian May 13, 2003, "It would be a much better country if women did not vote."

Ann Coulter is a blowhard. She makes a living yelling out rude comments that show signs of racism, sexism (of her own sex), disrespect and accusations that are completely uneducated.

We as politically minded individuals, and specifically students, are fueling her fire. I understand that I am adding to this by writing a column about her, but it has to be stopped and the reader deserves to know what kind of a person she really is.

There is no justifiable reason why she would be brought to this campus or any other for that matter. I'm certain it would be simply for shock value. Her presence and speech would fill our minds with conservative backwash instead of providing us with any real education. I'm certainly not OK with that, and I'm sure that the majority of students on this campus aren't either. We pay to be educated, not to be lied to.

Send comments to Amanda at [amandjb@bgsu.edu](mailto:amandjb@bgsu.edu).

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## The BG News Submission Policy

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are longer pieces between 600 and 800 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

## POLICIES

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com) with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of The BG News.



## RUSSIA, IRAN WILL TRY TALKING AGAIN

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia will hold another round of nuclear consultations with Iran, which has rejected Moscow's demand to suspend its uranium enrichment activities, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday. The Interfax news agency said the talks could take place in Moscow this week.

## Iraq relies less on outside troops to stifle violence

By Alexandra Zavis  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — Scorched pavement, destroyed shops, burned out cars and four men shot in the head then hanged from electricity pylons — victims of revenge killings — awaited Shiite residents emerging from their homes yesterday in Baghdad's Sadr City slum.

The scene, although gruesome, was not what many had feared: that deadly explosions the previous night in Sadr City would ignite all-out civil war, pitting majority Shiites against minority Sunnis.

Two car bombers and four mortar rounds shattered shops and market stalls at nightfall Sunday when residents were buying groceries for their evening meal. At least 58 people were killed and more than 200 wounded.

A key to yesterday's relative peace was anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's refusal to be provoked. With thousands of his Mahdi Army militiamen ready to fight, the Shiite leader called for calm and national unity.

It was the second time in less than three weeks that Iraqis stood at the precipice of civil war but pulled back.

Britain, the United States' largest military partner in Iraq, showed its confidence yesterday by announcing a 10 percent — about 800-troop — reduction by May.

"This is a significant reduction which is based largely on the ability of the Iraqis themselves to participate and defend themselves against terrorism, but there is a long, long way to go," British Defense Secretary John Reid said in London.

Washington hopes to begin withdrawing some of its troops by this summer if a new Iraqi government is in place and judged sufficiently in control. But sectarian violence and political bickering has stalled the process.

Iraq's new parliament will convene for the first time Thursday, three months after it was elected, to begin the process of forming the next government.

Bomb blasts and shootings in Baghdad and north of the capital, many of them targeting Iraqi police patrols, killed at least 15 people yesterday and wounded more than 40.

They included a U.S. soldier who died in a roadside bombing, the military said. A U.S. Marine was reported killed Sunday in insurgent-plagued Anbar province.

www.bgnews.com/world

## WORLD

## Ruler's blood tainted

Bad care could have led to Serbian nationalist's death

By Anthony Deutsch  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — A Dutch toxicologist said yesterday that Slobodan Milosevic was taking antibiotics that diluted prescriptions for heart ailments and high blood pressure while he was pleading with a U.N. tribunal for permission to get treatment in Russia.

Donald Uges said he found traces of rifampicin, an anti-tuberculosis drug, in Milosevic's system earlier this year after the former Yugoslav leader did not respond to blood pressure medication given at the U.N. detention center.

Rifampicin "makes the liver extremely active," possibly hindering the effectiveness of other medications.

"If you're taking something, it breaks down very quickly," Uges said.

Milosevic, 64, was found dead in his jail cell Saturday morning of an apparent heart attack. Hours earlier, he wrote an accusatory letter alleging that a "heavy drug" had been found in his bloodstream during a medical exam.

His ailments caused numer-



Darko Vojinovic AP Photo

UNHAPPY PRESS: Serbian newspaper front pages display pictures of former Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic on Sunday.

ous delays in his four-year trial for orchestrating a decade of conflict that killed 250,000 people and tore the Yugoslav federation asunder. No verdict will be issued.

Uges suggested Milosevic may have taken the unprescribed medicine in a bid to be released from jail and get medical attention in Russia — by portraying his Dutch doctors as unable to

treat his condition.

"First he wasn't taking his medicine. Then he was forced to take it under supervision and his blood pressure still didn't come down. So his camp said: 'You see, these Dutch doctors don't know how to treat him and he should go to Russia,'" Uges said.

Milosevic's widow, Mirjana Markovic, and their son, Marko, live in Russia.

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## Shiites put to death, 'according to law'

SADDAM, FROM PAGE 2

Court trial was "imaginary," with no chance of defense, and have produced documents showing 10 juveniles — including some as young as 11 and 13 — were among those sentenced to death.

The head of the Revolutionary Court, Awad al-Bandar, came under tough questioning Monday from chief judge Raouf Abdel-Rahman and chief prosecutor Jaafar al-Moussawi over the conduct of the 1984 trial.

Al-Bandar acknowledged he sentenced the Shiites to death but said their trial was conducted "in accordance with the law."

He said all confessed to their role in the attack and that they

were given a two-trial that they attended, with lawyers.

"How did you take the testimonies of 148 persons that quickly?" the judge asked him.

"We were at war with Iran, and they confessed that they did their act at orders coming from Iran," al-Bandar said.

Al-Moussawi presented documents from the Mukhabarat intelligence agency at the time stating that some of the 148 died during interrogation before they could be executed. He repeatedly asked al-Bandar how all the defendants could have appeared before the Revolutionary Court if some had already died.

Al-Bandar insisted all 148 were there, but finally threw up his hands, saying, "Is it so

strange and surprising that someone might die in interrogation?"

"This shows that the defendants themselves were not referred before the court, only their papers. And the death sentences were based solely on those papers," al-Moussawi argued.

Ramadan — who was a member of Saddam's Baath Party Command and the Revolutionary Command Council at the time and became vice president in 1991 — denied accounts by earlier witnesses he came to Dujail after the attack on Saddam's motorcade.

"I did not visit Dujail the first day or the second day [after the attack]," he insisted. "Had I gone, it would not have been a

crime. But I did not go."

Ramadan said U.S. troops and CIA agents beat him with metal batons and sticks after he was captured in 2003. He said they hit him, demanding to know the hiding place of Saddam, who was still on the run after the fall of Baghdad to U.S. forces and was captured several months after Ramadan in December 2003.

Before al-Bandar, another of the lower-level defendants, Mohammed Azawi Ali, testified yesterday, denying the same charges.

"I didn't detain anyone, not even a bug. I didn't write any reports about people, and if there is someone in Dujail who says this bring him here and let him face me," Ali told the court.

## Students discuss

USG, FROM PAGE 1

wonders if students are spending less time studying than what is recommended, and what a lack of effort may do to the value of students' education.

There was plenty of response to Laffin's concerns from USG senators. Some thought professors should expect more from their students while some senators thought the teachers could be responsible for keeping students driven. Psychology profes-

sor, Milt Hakel talked about students evaluating teachers.

Student evaluations can have a very strong effect on the way that teachers run their classes. Last night's opportunity to provide feedback on University issues was appreciated by the USG senators. Sen. Johnathon Byrd said the open discussion showed a very positive side of BG SU.

"I think it shows that both faculty and students care about their work here at the University," he said.

## Private session held by Board of Trustees

TRUSTEES, FROM PAGE 1

had to change it. I'm still not sure why they did what they did."

Sinn said that several other committee members share her feelings.

When the committee submitted the proposed plan to Ed Whipple for his approval, they were under the impression that it was a done deal, Sinn said. While Sinn only has three years of experience on the committee, she's never heard of the Board of Trustees actively changing such a plan.

Executive Vice President Linda Dobb is aware of the committee's concerns, and said they were aware that their "work is advisory to the University."

While Whipple had the last word on whether to approve the plan, the Board of Trustees may have influenced his decision at the last minute.

During the Board of Trustees meeting on Friday March 3, 2006, they broke into executive session for an hour and half — a closed door meeting that only the appointed Trustees attended. Members present at the executive session now say the meeting was spent discussing the abortion issue with University legal counsel Tom Trimboli.

Trustee William Primrose said he understood that the Board's

concerns about abortion coverage was based on student opposition to abortion. Students and Falcons for Life circulated a petition in opposition to abortion coverage.

Trustees also discussed in executive session the idea "that the students who did not believe in abortion should not pay that part of the policy," Primrose said.

The board didn't walk out of the meeting with a decision in hand about whether abortion should be included in the proposed plan, Dobb said. Dobb was present at the executive session, because she also serves as secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Dobb said that the committee had been asked to research optional abortion coverage throughout their search for an insurance provider and plan. Sinn said the committee did so, and was told by Chickering during original negotiations that optional abortion coverage was not available.

"[Abortion] is legal, it's a legal, medical procedure. We wanted to give the diversity of students here at the University the best options we could," Sinn said, adding that several other Ohio colleges include abortion coverage in their student health insurance.

From the age of thirty, humans gradually begin to shrink in size.



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## MAD COW DISEASE FOUND IN ALABAMA

WASHINGTON (AP) — A cow in Alabama has tested positive for mad cow disease, the Agriculture Department said yesterday, confirming the third U.S. case of the brain-wasting ailment. The cow did not enter the food supply for people or animals, officials said. The animal was killed by a local veterinarian and buried on the farm.

## NATION

www.bgnews.com/nation



Bebeto Matthews AP Photo

**GUARDING GROUND ZERO:** Port Authority police patrol ground zero at the World Trade Center site in New York. Site plans are controversial.

## Families protest 9/11 project

Relatives of Sept. 11 victims say memorial dishonors loved ones

By Amy Westfeldt  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Construction workers began clearing gravel and debris from the site of the World Trade Center towers yesterday, the first step in building a permanent memorial to victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Some family members of those killed rallied at the site, protesting that the project would destroy a piece of history and dishonor

their loved ones.

Without the fanfare that usual accompanies groundbreakings, trucks carrying lumber and other equipment rolled down a ramp to the site, and workers started shoveling earth off the north tower footprint.

Stefan Pryor, president of the Lower Manhattan Development Corp., the agency in charge of rebuilding ground zero, said construction was finally under way "after a monumental public planning process."

But at street level, 100 family members, including a group that has sued to stop construction, said

the memorial would destroy the trade center's historic foundation and fail to honor their loved ones.

"There is hope that we will be able to stop the LMDC from trampling the footprints," said Anthony Gardner of the Coalition of 9/11 Families, which sued on Friday to stop construction.

Gardner's attorney, Alan Fuchsberg, said a state judge set a Wednesday hearing in the case. A leading national preservation group recently echoed the group's concerns in a letter to rebuilding officials.

The memorial, titled "Reflecting Absence" by architect Michael

Arad, was chosen two years ago from more than 5,200 proposals. It marks the fallen towers near their footprints with two stone reflecting pools at street level, surrounded by trees. The pools will go 70 feet below ground, where visitors can find the names of the nearly 3,000 people killed in the 2001 attacks and the 1993 trade center bombing.

The construction that began yesterday will take about six weeks, followed by the creation of more than 100 concrete footings to support the memorial. It is scheduled to be complete in 2009.

## Kerry unsure about censure

Senator reserves support on proposal to censure president

By Terry Kinney  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Sen. John Kerry said yesterday that he will need to take a closer look at a proposal that would censure President Bush over the president's domestic spying program before he decides whether to support it.

"There are a lot of issues right now we need to be focused on," said Kerry, the Massachusetts Democrat who lost the race for president in 2004 when Ohio went to Bush.

"We also do need to hold the president accountable. I want

to make sure that is the best way to do it before I make that final judgment," Kerry said.

Sen. Russ Feingold of Wisconsin said Sunday he would introduce a resolution to censure Bush for authorizing domestic eavesdropping, saying the White House misled Americans about its legality.

Bush has acknowledged ordering the surveillance practice after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Kerry, the ranking member of the Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, made his first trip to the state since the presidential election to meet with Mayor Mark Mallory and attend a roundtable meeting of groups representing small businesses.

Feingold announced his intention to censure Bush during an appearance on ABC's "This Week" on Sunday.

"The president has broken the law and, in some way, he must be held accountable," he later told The Associated Press.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., called Feingold's proposal "a crazy political move." Sen. John Warner, R-Va., said on CNN's "Late Edition" the announcement was "political grandstanding. And it tends to weaken our president."

A censure resolution, which simply would scold the president, has been used just once in U.S. history — against Andrew Jackson in 1834.

## 'South Park' voice actor quits after episode targets Church of Scientology

By Erin Carlson  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Isaac Hayes has quit "South Park," where he voices Chef, saying he can no longer stomach its take on religion.

Hayes, who has played the ladies' man/school cook in the animated Comedy Central satire since 1997, said in a statement yesterday that he feels a line has been crossed.

"There is a place in this world for satire, but there is a time when satire ends and intolerance and bigotry towards religious beliefs of others begins," the 63-year-old soul singer and outspoken Scientologist said.

"Religious beliefs are sacred to people, and at all times should

be respected and honored," he continued. "As a civil rights activist of the past 40 years, I cannot support a show that disrespects those beliefs and practices."

"South Park" co-creator Matt Stone responded sharply in an interview with The Associated Press yesterday, saying, "This is 100 percent having to do with his faith of Scientology... He has no problem — and he's cashed plenty of checks — with our show making fun of Christians."

Last November, "South Park" targeted the Church of Scientology and its celebrity followers, includ-

ing actors Tom Cruise and John Travolta, in a top-rated episode called "Trapped in the Closet." In the episode, Stan, one of the show's four mischievous fourth graders, is hailed as a reluctant savior by Scientology leaders, while a cartoon Cruise locks himself in a closet and won't come out.

Stone told The AP he and co-creator Trey Parker "never heard a peep out of Isaac in any way until we did Scientology. He wants

a different standard for religions other than his own, and to me, that is where intolerance and bigotry begin."

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16th March 2006

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PUBLIC LECTURES

Thursday March 16th from 1:00 to 3:00PM  
Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theatre  
Room 206

**Using Eye Tracking to Study Comprehension in  
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Presented by  
Brooke Halliwell, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
Director of the School of Hearing, Speech and Language Sciences and the  
Neurolinguistics Laboratory at Ohio University

**Action Observation and Language Comprehension**

Presented by  
Steven L. Small, M.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Neurology and  
Co-Director of the Brain Research  
MR Imaging Center at the University of Chicago

Lunchtime snacks from Noon to 1PM outside Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theatre  
Lectures will begin at 1:00 PM



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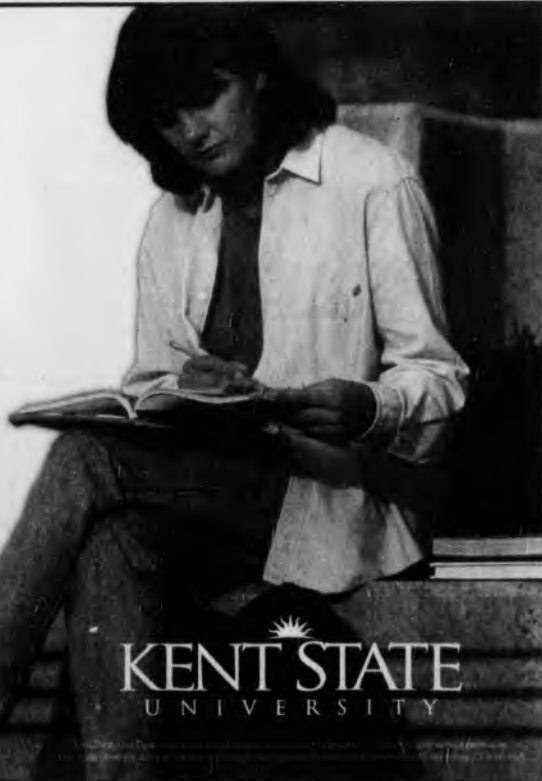
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# Engineers concerned about dam's condition

Despite preventative measures in place, dam still at high risk

DOVER, Ohio (AP) — The nearly 70-year-old Dover Dam is among the nation's 10 most at-risk dams and a large flood could overwhelm it, according to an assessment by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"If the region saw a flood bigger than last year's, the dam could fail," said Nick Krupa, the Corps' operations manager for the Muskingum area in northeast Ohio. "Failure of Dover Dam would be rapid and catastrophic and would happen so fast we probably wouldn't be able to open the gates."

The dam, built of concrete building blocks, holds back 40 billion gallons of water on the Tuscarawas River. It went into

operation in 1938.

It sits about three to four miles north of Dover and New Philadelphia and about 15 miles south of Canton. It also is surrounded by farm-land communities and larger, residential communities.

The Corps estimates that the failure of the dam during a maximum flood could cause \$670 million in property damage, The (Dover-New Philadelphia) Time Reporter reported Sunday.

Such estimates are determined by considering damage that could occur without dams in place at times of maximum rainfall and flood levels, said Rodney Cremeans, project manager at the Corps of Engineers district office in Huntington, W.Va. He said such a worst-case scenario would cause flooding as far as the Ohio River.

Conditions that lead to such

flooding happen once every several hundred years, Krupa said. He said measures are taken to prevent problems, such as releasing water in a controlled matter when flood conditions are forecast.

"We'll always work under the assumption that it's better to be safe than sorry," Krupa said. "Our engineers know what the dam can handle and at what level it would be in danger of failing."

The concern is that heavy waters could force the dam to slide because there are fractures in the rock, shale and limestone that sits beneath it, said Steve Brewster, chief of engineering in the geology section at the Corps' Huntington office.

Patty Levengood, director of Tuscarawas County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, said there is



Pat Burk AP Photo

**FENDING OFF THE FLOOD:** The Dover Dam holds back floodwater caused by significant rain in northeastern Ohio in January 2005. The 70-year-old dam is among the nation's top 10 most at-risk dams.

a county wide plan that addresses all the county's dams, but creating a specific policy for responding to a Dover Dam failure is high on the list of priorities.

In January 2005, flood levels forced the evacuation of some homes near the dam. The floods reached record-breaking water levels, but officials said the dam performed the way it was designed to.

The dam is ninth on a list of the nation's most at-risk dams compiled last year, Corps officials said. Mohawk Dam on the Walhonding River in central Ohio is seventh. The Bolivar Dam and the Beach City Dam, both in northeast Ohio, also are among the top 20.

Studies of the Mohawk and Bolivar dams started in 2004, said Carolyn Plants, acting chief of programs at the Corps

office in Huntington. But problems at those dams might not be as serious as those facing Dover Dam, she said.

Concerns about Dover Dam date to 1977, but until last year's list, the Corps had not had an opportunity to determine specific risks, Brewster said. Preliminary cost estimates to bring the dam up to today's standards are about \$71 million.

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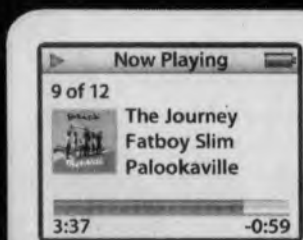
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# THIS WEEK IN BG SPORTS

**BASEBALL**  
Tuesday, Sat., Sun.  
Wright State; Evansville (2)

**SOFTBALL**  
Friday-Sunday  
USF Adidas in Tampa, Fla.

**TENNIS**  
Saturday  
1 p.m. vs. Ferris State

**GYMNASTICS**  
Friday, 7 p.m. vs. EMU

TRIBE: PITCHING ROTATION SET IN CLEVELAND. WWW.BGNEWS.COM



**TUESDAY**  
March 14,  
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## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# No. 12 seed BG to face UCLA

First round game will be a homecoming for BG's Liz Honegger

By Jessica Ameling  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The BGSU women's basketball team won't be traveling anywhere warm for the NCAA tournament, but the players and coaches couldn't be happier.

The Falcons (28-2) earned the No. 12 seed and will play fifth-seeded UCLA (20-10) at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in West Lafayette, Ind. The tournament will be a virtual homecoming for Liz Honegger who is from neighboring Lafayette.

"It took a second for it to set in, but then I read West Lafayette up there and then you know of course the only thing I'm thinking is that I'm going home," Honegger said. "It's going to be a great time, and I just can't wait to get there."

The team didn't have to sit in suspense for long, as they were the third match-up announced by ESPN last night. BG coach Curt Miller said the 12 seed was about what he expected, despite the team's recent climb to No. 21 in the USA Today/ESPN Coaches Poll.

"I was excited, especially about the location," Miller said. "Our fans have been tremendous, what a following to Cleveland, now we have a bus trip to West Lafayette. It couldn't be better."



**STAYING IN THE MIDWEST:** The BGSU women's basketball team reacts after learning they'll play UCLA during the first round of the NCAA tournament Sunday in West Lafayette, Ind. The Falcons, a No. 12 seed, received an automatic bid to the dance for winning the MAC tournament.

The Falcons secured their bid into the tournament by winning the Mid-American Conference championship in dominating fashion in Cleveland this weekend. BG held its opponents to an average of 48.7 points per game and won the title game against Kent State by 25.

Last year the team lost in the first round of the NCAA tournament to Kansas State by 10 points. But this year the Falcons will bring less nerves and more confidence with them to Indiana.

"Being down two with eight minutes to go [to Kansas State] and not being able to pull it

off, that leaves a little bit of a sting," said sophomore point guard Kate Achter. "And going through the season losing only two games, one to Kentucky who got a five seed, knowing we were that close, we're definitely very confident going into the tournament."

After having a little rest after the MAC tournament the always scout-heavy Falcons will get back to work this week preparing for the Bruins.

"We're on the phones all night with anyone who can help us with tapes," Miller said.

## Krebs ends 7-year run at BG; takes job at UNM

By John Turner  
REPORTER

After seven years as the athletic director at BGSU, Paul Krebs has accepted a position to be the director of athletics at the University of New Mexico. The announcement came Sunday from acting University of New Mexico President David Harris, who then introduced Krebs in a press conference yesterday afternoon.

"In an exceptional field of applicants, Paul was the strongest candidate," Harris said. "We were especially impressed with the emphasis he places on academic performance and the overall integration of the student-athlete into campus life."

Krebs received a five-year contract from New Mexico — details of which will not be announced until finalized. Krebs is expected to start his position at UNM sometime in June.

"I'm excited and our family is excited to be here," Krebs said. "It's a great opportunity for us. I think it's a dream job; an opportunity to be the leader of an outstanding athletic program that is the flagship university in the state."

Over the last 25 years,

KREBS, PAGE 12

## SOFTBALL

# Falcons hang with best

BG upsets No. 13 Wash.; gives fans fits to top teams from the south

By Dan Wyar  
REPORTER

Despite their early success — beginning the season 6-0 — the BGSU softball team experienced a case of spring break woes, going 4-7 in tournaments in Waco, Texas and Boca Raton, Fla.

In their first tournament in Chattanooga, Tenn., the Falcons scored 30 runs in six games. In 11 games in Waco and Boca Raton the team scored just 29.

The Falcons finished 1-5 in the Compass Bank Invitational hosted by No. 18 Baylor, with their lone win coming over No. 13 ranked University of Washington, 3-1, on the final day of the tournament.

The Falcons got started early against UW when Gina Rango, the reigning MAC Player of the Year, singled up the middle, scoring Jeanine Baca to put the Falcons up 1-0. The next inning BG scored two runs because of two UW errors and hung on for the 3-1 victory.

"We went to Waco and faced some really good competition, and I was very happy with our performance," Rango said.

In all six games in Waco, the Falcons faced teams that were already ranked or received votes in national polls, which took a little bit of the sting away after winning only one game in the tournament.

Baca hit a team best .316 in the tournament, leading the Falcons in walks (three), runs scored (three), slugging percentage (.368) and on-base pct. (.435), earning herself a spot on the All-Tournament Team. Rango also earned the same honor by hitting .263 in Waco and led the Falcons with five RBI.

"I feel really comfortable up there right now," Baca said. "I've been just waiting for my pitches



BG News file photo

**STEPPING UP:** Emmy Ramsey and the BGSU softball team topped nationally-ranked Washington on March 3 in Waco, Texas.

to come, and I just feel very confident."

Baca's and Rango's bats continued to stay hot in Boca Raton for their first game in the Florida Atlantic University Worth Classic against the Seton Hall Pirates.

Baca had two hits and plated a pair of runs for the Falcons, while Rango and sophomores Allison Vallas and Dawnjene DeLong scored two runs in a 7-5 victory over the Pirates.

"I still feel like it's early in the season, but I've been really happy with our teams performance so far," Rango said.

Senior and reigning MAC Pitcher of the Year Liz Vrabel (4-4) notched the victory for the Falcons, allowing four runs on six hits in 3 1/3 innings.

However the Pirates would get redemption over the Falcons and beat them 3-2 in the semifinals of the FAU Worth Classic and advancing to the finals where they upended host FAU, 3-1, to win the championship. Rango belted her 20th career homerun, the most in Falcon softball history. But it wasn't enough.

In their second game Saturday, the Falcons lost to FAU 4-1 and

never recovered from there.

Freshman hurler Hayley Wiemer went all seven innings and allowed two runs on five hits, but the Falcons couldn't get their bats going. The Owls held the Falcons to three hits, and sophomore Allison Vallas collected the only RBI for the Falcons on a single in the fourth inning.

"I think we did everything we could have done this tournament," Rango said. "Our team stuck in there and we tried our hardest."

The Falcons will head back on the road to Florida this weekend for the University of South Florida Speedline Invitational where they will face Troy and Towson on Friday and George Mason on Saturday.

The team won't take the field in Bowling Green until March 25, but being on the road so often and so early in the season doesn't seem to bother the team.

"It's hard being on the road, but I love it," Baca said. "I love that my family gets to come out and watch me and it's exciting. We all get excited to play on the road. It's much more fun that way."

## WOMEN'S GOLF

# Coach gets first tourney win

Falcons make strides from season opener to win event in Utah

By Chris Voloschuk  
REPORTER

Although cold and windy conditions took hold over St. George, Utah, last week during the aptly named St. George Invitational, the BGSU women's golf team did not let it faze them.

They went home winners of the tourney, beating out five other teams from various schools in the Midwest. This was a very positive result, especially considering the team's last place finish at Arizona in the East/West Rio Verde Invitational, held just four days prior.

It took just two tournaments for first-year coach Stephanie Young to pick up her first victory.

"It was great," Young said. "I'm very proud of the girls. It was great to get the first win so early."

As a team, BGSU shot a total of 645 (329-316) over the two-day tourney, which was good enough to put them seven strokes ahead of the second place finisher, Grand Valley State University, which scored a 652 (334-318). The second-day score was very pleasing to Young, as the team met its goal of shooting a round of 316.

Along with a very impressive performance as a group, there were some great individual

scores. Of 41 total golfers in the tournament, six Falcons placed in the top-25, including three within the top-10. Amanda Bader, with scores of 78 and 79, finished third overall and was just two strokes behind the leader. Coming in sixth was Kari Liggett, who put together rounds of 83 and 78.

"It is really going to boost our confidence for the rest of the spring season," Liggett said. "After the not-so-well performance in Arizona, it really made us get our heads back in the game because we wanted to prove that we were better than that, and I think we proved that in Utah."

LIGGETT, PAGE 12

## GYMNASTICS

# Searching for wins and identity

Falcons, plagued by injuries, continue struggles over break

By Colin Wilson  
REPORTER

Improvement and renewed confidence are two things the BGSU Gymnastics team has wanted in the past weeks.

"We've been moving forward," said coach Dan Connelly. "I think everything we've done in the last few weeks has improved."

The Falcons competed in two meets over break. They lost both, but improved their scores. The most recent meet was this past Friday at the College of William and Mary in Virginia. The final score was 188.35-187.475 in favor of the Tribe.

BG improved on the uneven bars, scoring 46.275 overall during the meet. They had

three girls in the top six in the event. Jholeen Ponce scored a 9.475, taking fourth place. Jessica Bradley and Jenna Wirtanen were both able to score 9.325 and tie for sixth. For Wirtanen it was a career-high.

On the vault, the Falcons had their best performance of the day. They had three competitors in the top five. Allison Swafford tied for second with a 9.65 and continues to improve her performance as the season presses on. Jessica Guyer placed fourth with a 9.625 in the only event that she competed in. Fifth place was taken by Jillian Stranges as she scored a 9.575. The event would be the only one that Guyer would compete in. She could not continue due to back problems.

"We've really had to reinvent our team a few times this year," Connelly said. "We have

not been able to keep everyone healthy."

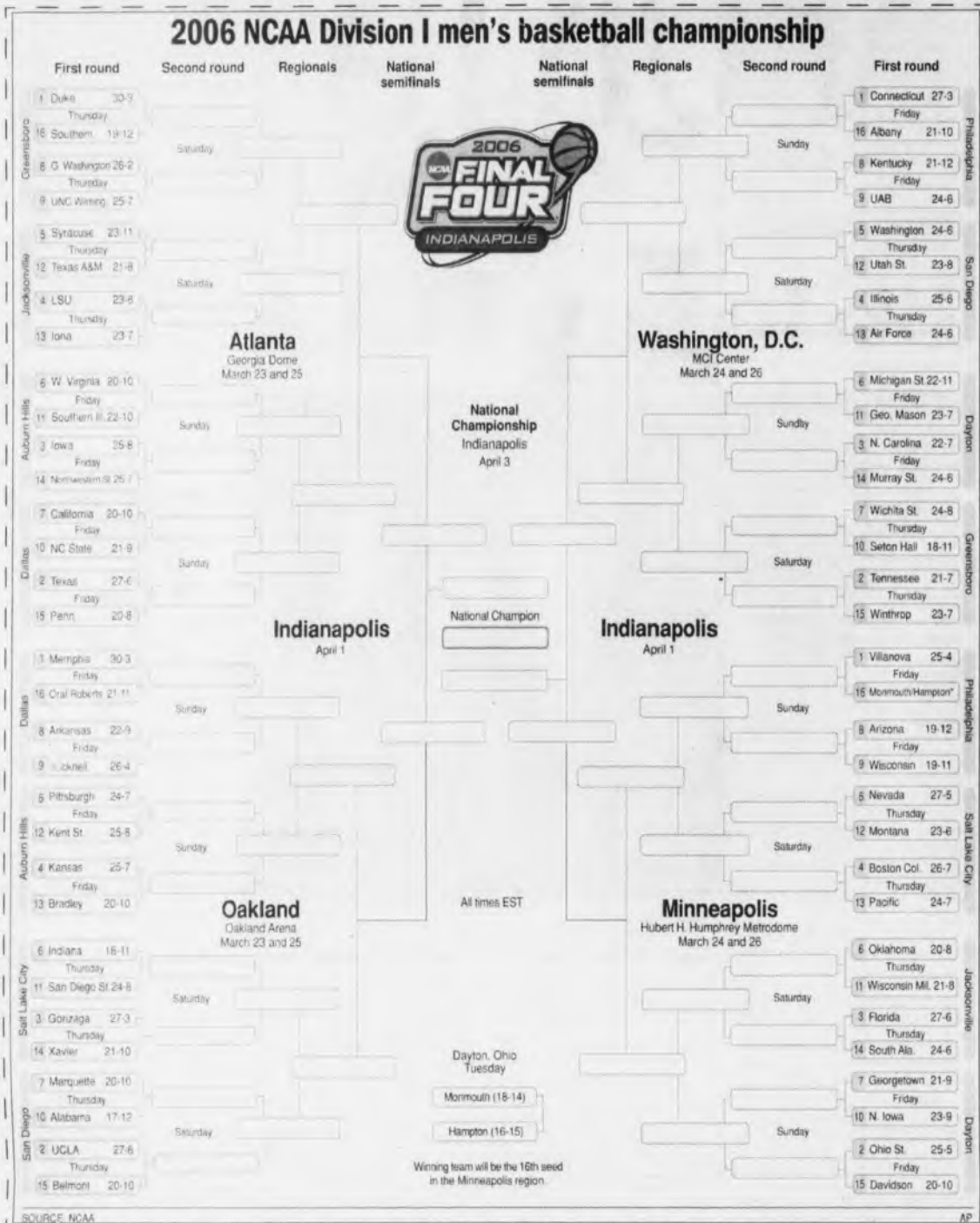
During the floor exercise it was Swafford once again coming up big. She received a 9.7 in the event and placed second behind a great 9.8 routine by William and Mary's Brittany Gibbs. Stranges was able to pick up a 9.6 to take fourth and Erin Coudriet found herself in the top-five for the first time this season by scoring a 9.575. Also, Marissa Saneholtz scored a career-best 9.425 and placed sixth.

Then came the balance beam to finish out the night. It finished off the Falcons as well, their best score was by Jessica Bradley who received a 9.375 and placed third. Katie Follett would score a career-high in the event with a 9.3 and a sixth place finish. The low scores on the beam may

INJURIES, PAGE 12



# It's March Madness time; yeah baby!



THE BG NEWS STAFF

It's about that time.

Time for March Madness.

Time to camp out in front of the TV for hours before glancing at the clock to realize it's 6 p.m. and you're still wearing your pajamas.

Time to ignore girlfriends, work, funerals and personal hygiene.

Time to justify skipping a class — sometimes more — because a team called the Salukis is about to pull the biggest upset of the tournament so far.

Time to wonder what the hell a saluki is.

Time to participate in the fourth annual BG News NCAA tournament pick 'em contest. The rules are simple: A correctly picked game in the first round will get you a point, followed by two points in the second round, four in the third round, etc... Choosing the correct winner will get you 32 points and something to write home about. In the event of a tie, those in contention will be contacted prior to the championship game to make a guess at the combined score of the teams.

It's difficult to take the play-in game seriously, so don't bother picking it — unless you want to add some colorful commentary about how bad Hampton is. Just turn in your completed bracket to the BG News, 210 West Hall, by 2 p.m. Thursday.

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# tech trends

The Tech Trends series is an exploration of the issues and trends in technology teaching and learning.

The series is sponsored by the Information Technology Committee (ITC), the Office of the Executive Vice President and the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

## Podcasting—An Apple® Computer Presentation

Thursday, March 16  
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

201 Bowen-Thompson Student Union

Jeff Feeman from Apple Computer will provide an overview of the recording, editing and publishing processes involved with podcasting and Apple's new initiative called iTunes U.

## Next Tech Trends: Third Frontier Projects and Funding Processes

Thursday, April 6, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
314 Bowen-Thompson Student Union

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ULTRAVIOLET (PG-13) 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

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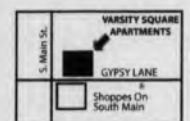
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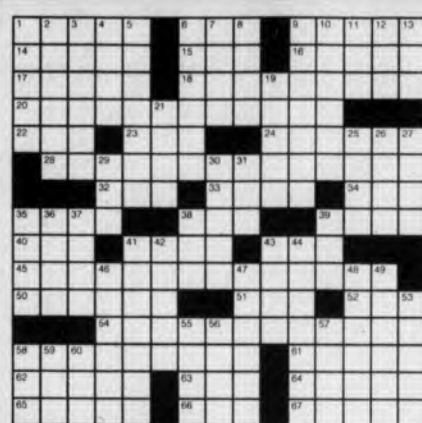
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- 1 Far from refined
- 6 Mineral matter
- 9 Turns over
- 14 Hebrew prophet
- 15 San Francisco hill
- 16 Butter substitutes
- 17 Egyptian dam
- 18 Having the most bands
- 20 No trag-ic performer, he?
- 22 Miscalculate
- 23 Compass pt.
- 24 Elite categories
- 28 Grant Wood class-ic?
- 32 Superlative ending
- 33 Exemplar of redness
- 34 John's Yoko
- 35 Writer Wiesel
- 38 Make lace
- 39 Dollar value
- 40 Homer's neighbor
- 41 Soprano Lily
- 43 Opposite of 23A
- 45 Dramat-ic Hellman work?
- 50 Stored fodder
- 51 By way of
- 52 British medical syst.
- 54 Rogers and Hammerstein lyric?
- 58 Kangaroo or wombat
- 61 Donna lead-in
- 62 So far
- 63 155
- 64 Poet Nash
- 65 Mating game?
- 66 CBS logo
- 67 Must-haves

- 1 Pursuit
- 2 Speakers' platforms
- 3 Teeming
- 4 Young or Pann
- 5 Colonel of KFC
- 6 As a gamble
- 7 Coll. mil. org.
- 8 Spanish river
- 9 Captain's backup
- 10 Draw out
- 11 One of the Tweedies
- 12 Goddess of the dawn
- 13 Concorde, e.g.
- 21 Mental picture
- 21 ICU element
- 25 Scram!
- 26 Metal containers
- 27 Sean Connery, for one
- 29 Wide shoe
- 30 Embarrass
- 31 Hoop hanging
- 35 Hobbit allies
- 36 5th-century pope
- 37 Pastoral poem
- 38 Blast letters
- 39 100 lbs.
- 41 Eating binges
- 42 A point ahead
- 43 Homeless child
- 44 Trample
- 46 Gives lip to
- 47 Unfold
- 48 Out of the weather
- 49 Sounded, as bells
- 53 Reads a bar code
- 55 Riviera city
- 56 John of the PGA
- 57 More than suggest
- 58 Buddy
- 59 Remains in a tray
- 60 Whiskey grain

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**GET OFF YOUR FEET:** Lesley Schuster, Jen Stevenot, Caitlin Rex, Ann Geraghty and Pat Langendorfer take a break from hiking on the Appalachian Trail to enjoy the view at the top of Swim Bald.



**THE HIGH LIFE:** The scene from the top of Swim Bald, one of the highest points of elevation reached by the hikers.



**LUNCH AT THE TOP:** Zach Mueller and Ann Geraghty laugh with their fellow hikers during a lunch break at Stecoah Gap.



**EYES ON THE SKY:** Sunset from Brown Fork Gap that students viewed on their hike along the Appalachian Trail.

## Students bond during rough hike

APPALACHIAN, FROM PAGE 1

of the trail, each covering about 30 miles over the course of the week.

The AT is approximately 2,160 miles long, winding through 15 states, Georgia to Maine. While we'd only be covering about 60 miles with every group's mileage combined, some hikers do the entire trail. These are called thru-hikers, and to do the whole trail usually takes them four or five months.

### Day One

My group arrived at the Nantahala Outdoor Center Saturday afternoon. We changed into our hiking clothes and did a final check through our backpacks to ensure that we have everything we'll need for the week. My group leaders, Jen Stevenot and Pat Langendorfer lead us through some stretches to warm our muscles up before starting the hike.

When we're finished, we strapped on our backpacks and began the trail. We only had to hike 2.5 miles before reaching our campsite for the night, but the hike was almost entirely uphill. With 50+ lbs. of extra weight on my back, the uphill hike is not easy — if you've ever traveled with me before, you know that I'm not the lightest packer in the world.

While struggling to adjust the weight in my pack and trying to make the shoulder straps as comfortable as possible, I started to have second thoughts about whether or not I can do this. I didn't consider myself much of a quitter, but this might be a little more than I can handle.

### Day Two

We got up around 7:30 a.m. and my back was killing me. Today we're hiking 4.4 miles, mostly uphill again. I'm still having serious doubts that I'm going to be able to finish what I started. The inclines are tough! Apparently my daily workouts weren't enough to get me in shape for backpacking. Pat explained to me that the only way to prepare yourself for hiking up and down mountains is to actually do it.

The weather is great for our hike and the views are incredible. It's pretty amazing to see nothing but mountains stretching out for miles wherever you look.

When we made it to Sassafras Gap Shelter, our camp site for the night, we met a couple of thru-hikers and some friendly firemen from Georgia. We all got to know each other a little better around the campfire that night, before heading to bed as it starts to rain.

### Day Three

Today we left camp around 9:30 a.m. It's still raining a bit while we hiked up a steep incline to reach Cheoah Bald, a peak of over 5,000 ft. This is the highest point of elevation we'll reach this week.

While hiking, we walked through clouds and were surrounded by huge Rhododendron plants, so it felt as though we were walking through a rainforest. When we finally reach the top, we can't see much because of the heavy clouds and fog. Before continuing the hike after lunch, it starts to

clear up a little and we can see the mountains for miles.

When we reached Locust Cove Gap, our camp site for the night, we set up our tents and made dinner. Mac & cheese is on the menu for tonight. After eating, we're supposed to pour water into our bowls to clean it and then drink the remains, called "gray water." Just the thought of this makes me start gagging, so I dig a hole in our fire pit and pour my gray water there.

### Day Four

This morning was cold, and we wake up to some snow on the ground, though it quickly warms up once we get moving. Packing up the sleeping bag was an especially hard ordeal this morning. Trying to stuff a thick bag, designed to keep you warm enough in zero degree weather back into a small bag is not an easy task.

Each day it takes two others and myself combined to get the bag packed up, but today I had an unfortunate nail-breaking incident while trying to zip my bag up.

We had a downhill hike before lunch. The hard part about the downhill hike is the weight of the backpack throwing off my balance. I'm a little — okay, a lot — on the clumsy side, so during one part of the hike I wound up facedown on the trail before I even know what has happened.

### Day Five

We hiked almost six miles today before reaching Cable Gap Shelter, where we're staying for the night. Carved into the shelter is the phrase "FBI can't find me." Great, it's always reassuring knowing that you're sharing the woods with a criminal.

My cook group somehow manages to completely burn our pot while attempting to cook pudding. For some reason, we can't stop laughing about it either.

We try to come up with "trail names" for each other. I am dubbed "Snaps" — because I'm always snapping pictures — and we name another person in my group "Bear" because of a small snoring problem.

### Day Six

We finished our hike today, ending at the Fontana Dam Shelter. Pure exhaustion best describes what I'm feeling right now. As I sat down to take the duct tape off my blistered feet, I think to myself that this week has probably been one of the hardest in my life, both mentally and physically.

Our group gathers in a circle to play a final game of Roses and Thorns, where you go around and each person tells their high and low point of each day.

"My favorite part of the trip was at the end of the day, getting to sit back, relax and shoot the bull with a bunch of cool people that you just shared a wonderful experience with," said Tyler Nelson, a junior majoring in neuroscience.

Another thing that everyone enjoyed about the week was the weather, and just getting a break from society for a week. It was so peaceful and calming to be able to go days without hearing traffic or other things from everyday life.

## Krebs led BGSU to both athletic and academic success

KREBS, FROM PAGE 9

Krebs has served on the athletics administrations of the University of Oklahoma, Ohio State and BGSU. A Canfield, Ohio, native and 1978 BG alumnus, Krebs has also held the title of Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs at

BGSU since 2003.

"We have been fortunate to have had outstanding leadership from Paul Krebs the last seven years," said BGSU Vice President of Student Affairs Ed Whipple. "Our athletic and academic performance has been superb thanks to his efforts. We wish Paul and his family all the

best."

The impact left by Krebs is indisputable. Bowling Green had a 76 percent graduation rate in the latest NCAA report, the highest in school history and the best in the Mid-American Conference. Additionally, the BGSU graduation rate for student-athletes exhausting eli-

gibility was at least 92 percent every year from 2003-05.

"I think the overall success both on and off the field that occurred during his tenure has helped to create a greater sense of pride at BGSU," said Assistant Athletic Director J.D. Campbell.

Krebs will replace Rudy Davalos, who announced his

retirement from UNM last October following 13 years as the school's athletic director.

"I've known Paul personally and professionally for more than 20 years," said Michael J. Cleary, Executive Director of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics. "He is just an outstanding young

man and someone who will be a great asset to the University of New Mexico. I think it's a great fit for him and for the University."

As for filling the vacancy left by Krebs at BGSU, Whipple has announced that he will be meeting shortly with University president Sidney Ribeau to determine their next course of action.

## BG, Liggett improving early on

LIGGETT, FROM PAGE 9

Liggett was also very pleased about her individual finish.

"It [finishing sixth] was great for me," Liggett said. "From playing really poorly in Arizona I was kind of down but knew that I was better than those scores. I just had to keep my head in the game and I played a lot better. I knew that being a captain of the team, I have to show and example and to keep on chugging even if it isn't my day, and in Utah I was playing

well and it just seemed to come easier. I just seemed to have my swing back."

From the Rio Verde tournament to St. George, there were some clear cut improvements made. The team narrowed its focus, according to Young.

"They just took it one shot at a time," Young said. "They played the course."

Even with such a solid finish to a tourney, the team isn't getting complacent.

"Something everybody could

improve on is short game," Young said. "Everybody can also improve their number of shots."

According to Liggett, finishing strong is also something that could be worked on.

"I had a few bad holes both days right at the end that kept me from placing higher," Liggett said. "There is always something to work on. Even at your best days you always have something you can improve on so I think finishing strong is definitely one of mine."

## Falcons don't beam up in loss

INJURIES, FROM PAGE 9

have been the difference, as the Falcons lost by less than a point.

"We haven't been able to have everything to happen the right way all in the same day," Connelly said. "Every time we move forward it seems like we move right back."

Jacque Bernhardt did not make the trip with the team. She was too ill to compete but

the team hopes to have her back this week. Bernhardt usually performs on the vault and the floor exercise and is a very important member of the team.

In their other meet, the Falcons lost at Kent State on March 4 by a score of 193.550-190.550. They had their highest score of the season in the meet, but Kent was very precise and was able to pick up the win. A much improved

bars score of 47.2 was a confidence boost during a season which the team has struggled in the event.

The Falcons will return home this weekend after competing in five straight road meets. The team has not won a dual meet since Jan. 28 and hopes to finish the regular season with a conference win against Eastern Michigan on Friday.